



Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Overview

The County of Los Angeles is updating requirements for oil wells in unincorporated County areas. The proposed Oil Well Ordinance (ordinance) will update permit requirements and development and operating standards in Title 22 for existing and new oil wells and accessory facilities in unincorporated LA County. The initial draft of ordinance is available for review and comment.

Permit Requirements

The ordinance will update permit requirements:

- New uses will require a Conditional Use Permit.
- Existing uses without a discretionary permit will require a ministerial review for deemed-approved status in order to continue operations.
- In Zones R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-H, C-M, C-R, C-RU, and W:
 - New uses will be prohibited; and
 - Existing uses must cease operations 20 years after the effective date of the ordinance.

	Zones	Permit Required
New wells and accessory production facilities	A-1, A-2, O-S, R-R, M-1, M-1.5, M-2, M-2.5	Conditional Use Permit

	Zones	Time limit to obtain deemed-approved status	Additional Regulations
Existing wells and accessory production facilities	R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-H, C-M, C-R, C-RU, W	2 years*	After approval, uses in these zones will be required to cease operations 20 years after the effective date of the ordinance
	A-1, R-A, O-S	4 years*	After approval, uses in these zones will require Conditional Use Permit for continued operations 20 years after the effective date of the ordinance
	A-2, M-1, M-1.5, M-2, M-2.5, M-3, B-1	6 years*	

*If deemed-approved status is not obtained within the time limit, operator will have one year to obtain a Conditional Use Permit for continued operations.

Development and Operating Standards

The ordinance will add new and updated development and operating standards including:

For new and existing oil wells and accessory production facilities:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual inspections • Community notification requirements • Enforcement standards • Remove exemption from noise and vibration standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements for well bonds • Standards for site maintenance • Standards for well plugging and site restoration |
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For new oil wells and accessory production facilities:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 foot setback from Zones R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, or R-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meteorological station |
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For More Information

To learn more about the ordinance, read and comment on the ordinance, or sign up for the mailing list, visit: <http://planning.lacounty.gov/oilwell/> or contact us at ordinance@planning.lacounty.gov